

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A composition comprising (i) an enzyme that effects cleavage of a linkage that is comprised of a phosphatidylinositol and that membrane-anchors a surface protein or a carbohydrate ~~in~~ on a pathogen, whereby said cleavage effects release of said surface protein or carbohydrate, ~~said enzyme being other than an endo-1,4- β -D-mannanase,~~ and (ii) a physiologically acceptable carrier for said enzyme, wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration to a host and wherein said cleavage interferes with ~~host cell~~-pathogen binding to a host cell in the intestines, such that the infective ability of said pathogen to said host cell is reduced.

Claims 2-20 (previously cancelled)

Claims 21-33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is a feed.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition contains no anti-infection agent other than said enzyme.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said enzyme cleaves a linkage that effects release of a cell-surface protein.

Claims 37-38 (cancelled)

Claim 39 (currently amended): The composition according to claim 38 1, wherein said ~~phospholipase~~ enzyme is a type C or type D phospholipase.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The composition according to claim 38 39, wherein said type C phospholipase is a phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase C.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises a stabilizer, a carbohydrate carrier or a preservative.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 41, wherein said stabilizer is a buffer, a carbohydrate or a glycol.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 41, wherein said carbohydrate carrier is selected from the group consisting of xylose, fructose, glucose, sorbitol, and maltotriose.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 41, wherein said preservative is selected from the group consisting of propylparaben, sodium sorbate, potassium sorbate, and ascorbyl palmitate.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said carrier is a foodstuff into which said enzyme is incorporated.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 45, wherein said foodstuff is an animal feed comprised of grain material, a source of protein, vitamins, amino acids, and minerals.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said grain material is corn, sorghum, wheat, barley or oats.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 46, wherein said source of protein is beans or peas.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is in a solid or a liquid formulation.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said enzyme is contained in a tablet or a gelatin capsule shell.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said enzyme is prepared from a *Bacillus cereus* strain.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 51, wherein said *Bacillus cereus* strain is ATCC 7004 or ATCC 6464.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein said enzyme is obtained by expression of a recombinant DNA in a host organism.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The composition according to claim 53, wherein said host organism is from a *Bacillus megaterium* strain.

Claim 55 (currently amended): The composition according to claim 4 or 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 200 IU/Kg – 4000 IU/Kg feed.

Claims 56-72 (canceled)

Claims 73-94 (not entered)

Claim 95 (new): The composition according to claim 39, wherein said phospholipase is 1-phosphatidylinositol phosphodiesterase.

Claim 96 (new): The composition according to claim 39, wherein said type C phospholipase belongs to enzyme class, E.C. 3.1.4.10.

Claim 97 (new): The composition according to claim 39, wherein said phospholipase is glycosyl-phosphatidylinositol-specific phospholipase D.

Claim 98. (new): A method of treating or ameliorating the risk of a digestive tract infection, comprising orally administering, to a subject suffering from or at risk for suffering said infection, an effective amount of said composition according to claim 1.

Claim 99. (new): The method according to claim 98, wherein said enzyme cleaves a linkage that effects release of a cell-surface protein.

Claim 100. (new): The method according to claim 98, wherein said method does not include administering an anti-infection agent other than said enzyme.

Claim 101. (new): The method according to claim 98, wherein said infection is caused by a protozoan, bacterial, yeast, or fungal pathogen.

Claim 102. (new): The method according to claim 101, wherein said infection is caused by a protozoan pathogen of the genus *Eimeria*.

Claim 103. (new): The method according to claim 101, wherein said infection is caused by a protozoan pathogen of the genus *Cryptosporidium*

Claim 104. (new): The method according to claim 101, wherein said infection is caused by a bacterial pathogen of the genus *Clostridium*.

Claim 105. (new): The method according to claim 98, comprising administering orally, to said subject, an extracellular enzyme preparation from a *Bacillus cereus* strain.

Claim 106. (new): The method according to claim 105, wherein said *Bacillus cereus* strain is ATCC 7004 or ATCC 6464.

Claim 107. (new): The method according to claim 98, wherein said enzyme is obtained by expression of a recombinant DNA in a host organism.

Claim 108. (new): The method according to claim 107, wherein said host organism is from a *Bacillus megaterium* strain.

Claim 109. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 3-90 U/lb feed.

Claim 110. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 3 U/lb feed.

Claim 111. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 10 U/lb feed.

Claim 112. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 30 U/lb feed.

Claim 113. (new): The composition according to claim 34, wherein said enzyme is present at 90 U/lb feed.